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Department of State TELEGRAM

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R Saigon 6161

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ACTION EA 19

INFO GPM 03 SC 01 RSC 01 USIA 12 H 02 NSC 10 NSAE 00 L 03 INR 07 P 04
CIA 04 DOD 01 SP 02 SS 35 SAH 03 SAL 01 AID 30 NIC 01 RSR 01
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R 160550Z SEP 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6979
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4266
CINCPAC FOR POLAD
AMCONSUL DANANG 971
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2546

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Dzakula DATE 12/23/81
RDS [ ] OF X [ ] EXT ( )
TS AUTH ( )
EXCISE [ ]
DECLASS [X]
RELEASE [ ]
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS ( )

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UBJ: LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS

REF : A. SAIGON 5716
B. SAIGON 4809
C. SAIGON 5922
D. SAIGON 5936
E. SAIGON A-187

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 6161 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

1. INFORMATION ON TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO HAVE FILED FOR LOWER HOUSE AS REPORTED REF A. IS INCORRECT. WE HAVE NOW BEEN INFORMED BY SPECIAL COMMISSARIAT FOR ADMINISTRATION THAT TOTAL IS 1,650 RPT 1,650 APPLICATIONS FILED AS OF SEPTEMBER 5, INCLUDING SAIGON AND ALL OTHER ELECTORAL CONSTITUENCIES. COMPOSITION OF

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PERSONS AS REPORTED REF C. IS THUS FOR ENTIRE NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO HAVE FILED THEIR CANDIDACIES. THESE APPLICATIONS ARE NOW IN PROCESS OF REVIEW.

2. THERE WILL BE AN APPRECIABLE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS REJECTED FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, AS WELL AS SOME CANDIDACIES WHICH WILL BE WITHDRAWN. WE WILL NOT KNOW FINAL RESULTS OF SCREENING PROCESS UNTIL AFTER OCTOBER 1, WHEN SECOND AND FINAL POSTING WILL TAKE PLACE. IN THE MEANTIMDWE WILL CONTINUE TO REPORT TO DEPARTMENT NAMES OF THOSE WHO HAVE FILED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE TO US ALONG WITH WHATEVER BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION WE CAN DEVELOP. WE WILL ALSO REPORT THOSE WHO HAVE WITHDRAWN AND/OR BEEN DISQUALIFIED, AND THE REASONS THEREFORE, TO THE EXTENT THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO US.

BUNKER

ORIGIN/ACTION

EA-8

| M/R | REP | AF |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | | |
| RA | EUR | FE |
| NEA | CU | INR 5 |
| E | P 2 | IO 5 |
| L | SEA 2 | AID 12 |
| 3/S 13 | GPM 1 | S/P 1 |
| GR | COM | FRB |
| NT | LAB | TAR |
| TR | XMB | AIR 5 |
| RMY 3 | CIA 20 | NAVY 5 |
| ISD 33 | USIA 10 | NSA 3 |
| SHK 3 | | NSC 2 |

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

# AIRGRAM

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A-196 NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO : BANGKOK, CINCPAC, DANANG, VIENTIANE

RECEIVED SEP 19 4 34 PM 1967 DEPT OF STATE ANALYSIS BRANCH

VOTED 9/27/67

FROM : Amembassy SAIGON

DATE: September 17, 1967

SUBJECT : PROVINCIAL REPORTING: Enemy Anti-Election Terror

REF : Saigon 4791, 4800, 4820, 4898

As reported reference telegrams enemy activity directed against the national elections both prior to the elections and on election day, was sustained and vicious, although unsuccessful in its objective of discrediting and disrupting the electoral process. This Airgram transmits excerpts from several reports filed by Americans in the provinces which comment on the enemy activity and the frequently heroic response of Vietnamese civilians who in many instances insisted on exercising their franchise in the face of explicit physical danger. Many instances of such heroic behaviour will go unrecorded; a sampling ought to be noted.

Darlac: In the highland province of Darlac, at 0330 election morning a large enemy force attacked a Montagnard hamlet 4 kilometers southeast of Phuoc An District town. Friendly losses were severe: 7 killed and 36 wounded, including Popular Forces soldiers, Revolutionary Development (Truong Son) workers, and civilians. The enemy were however beaten off, losing a confirmed 20 killed and an estimated 60 additional casualties. Despite the disruption caused by the attack, eighty per cent of the registered voters of the hamlet cast their ballots later that day. It is estimated that 10 per cent of the registered voters of the hamlet were either casualties or dependents accompanying casualties for medical treatment.

Saigon: At about nine thirty on election morning a grenade exploded at a polling place on Tran Hung Dao Street, Saigon, wounding about thirty people. Balloting was taking place in a high school, ten rooms of which were being utilized as polling stations. Eyewitnesses, among them an American news service reporter, recount that immediately after the explosion the principal of the high school, who was in general charge of

1967 SEP 19 PM 5 20

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Clearances: